

Historic Change



AP IMAGES

Elder D. Todd Christofferson, left, and Elder L. Tom Perry, center, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Quorum of the Twelve Apostles talk with each other as Sen. Jim Dabakis, D-Salt Lake City, speaks after Utah lawmakers introduced a landmark anti-discrimination bill that protects LGBT individuals while also carving out protections for the Boy Scouts of America and religious groups during a news conference at the Utah State Capitol Wednesday, March 4, 2015, in Salt Lake City.

Boys Scouts of America to allow transgender boys

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

After over a century, the Boys Scouts of America will accept members based on the gender listed on their initial application.

The Boy Scouts of America serves as one of the largest youth-serving organizations in the country. The Boy Scouts of America believe and, through nearly a century of experience, understand that helping youth puts us on a path toward a more conscientious, responsible and productive society, according to their website.

The acceptance of transgender boys began after Boy Scouts of America released a statement regarding gender identity Jan. 30.

“For more than 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America, along with schools, youth sports and other youth organizations, have ultimately deferred to the information on an individual’s birth certificate to determine eligibility for our single-gender programs,” the groups said in a statement. “However, that approach is no longer sufficient, as communities and state laws are interpreting gender identity differently, and these laws vary widely from state to state.”

This announcement reverses a policy that prohibited a transgender boy from joining the organization in New Jersey last year within a month of being accepted.

Northwest sophomore Lukas Alan identifies as a trans male and believes there is no reason that these boys should not be allowed into a boys group.

SEE **BOYSCOUTS** | A5

Activist’s campus visit yields mixed reactions

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

A Black Lives Matter activist, social justice educator and equal rights demonstrator spoke at Northwest at 7 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Charles Johnson Theater.

Janaya Khan is the co-founder of Black Lives Matter Toronto, and has become a leading voice in the global crusade demanding social transformation, justice and equality, according to their website.

Khan identifies as a black, queer, gender-nonconforming activist, staunch Afrofuturist, boxer and social-justice educator. In their lecture, Khan wants to discuss how people are affected by inequality and describe their individual work as a social justice advocate.

The Maryville Daily Forum released an article about Khan’s visit Jan. 27 and shared the corresponding article on Facebook. Followers of the page shared mixed reactions upon hearing that Black Lives Matter activist was coming to Northwest.

“Sad that crap pretty much started in Ferguson,” wrote one Facebook user. “Media fanned these flames. Northwest... wow, I would think this would seriously hurt their reputation.”

SEE **ACTIVIST** | A5



ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN

Professor of Geography Brett Chloupek and Michelle Allen (not pictured) designed a reality sandbox for geography majors to get hands-on experience with topography models all while shaping with real sand.

Sandbox used for hands-on-learning

KATIE STEVENSON
Chief Reporter | @katie_sue_62442

Faculty and staff members in Garrett-Strong joined forces to create a new classroom tool to help students tackle tough-to-understand concepts.

Professor of geography Brett Chloupek and Michelle Allen, a lab technician in the Department of Natural Sciences, worked together to design an augmented reality sandbox.

The sandbox allows users to create topography models by shaping real sand, which is then translated in real time to show an elevation map with contour lines. The map can simulate different natural phenomenon, such as rain or lava. It was officially unveiled and ready to use in classes Jan. 24.

Chloupek got the idea to design the sandbox

after seeing a video of one on YouTube, and realizing it was a cheap and easy tool he could create to help his students better understand difficult subjects.

For many science classes, students are expected to look at a flat, two-dimensional map and visualize it as something three-dimensional, but for many students, this is difficult. That is where the augmented reality sandbox comes in. It allows students to get a hands-on experience and create and visualize things in a three-dimensional way.

“We try to show three dimensions on a flat paper map, and only some students have the ability to see the contour and elevation that way,” Chloupek said. “...Students who can’t really visualize the contours and lines on the maps can go play in the sandbox and see a topographic map projected on top of actual topography. Immedi-

ately, students can see the elevation they have on their maps directly in front of them, and don’t have to try and visualize it on a flat, two-dimensional surface.”

Allen believes with the installment of the sandbox, students will be able to better understand and comprehend what they are taught in their lecture classes.

“I hope the students will be able to relate the material they have in lectures better,” Allen said. “Some students learn better with hands on. Just looking at pictures or listening to a professor lecture doesn’t help the student understand the material as well as being able to actually mold the sand and see how things change.”

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Broken Promise

Constituents say governor’s vow of transparency falls short

ANNA HASTERT
News Editor | @AnnaHasDirt

Missouri residents are questioning Gov. Eric Greitens’ ability to be transparent following his decision not to disclose donation details following his Jan. 9 inauguration celebration.

Following the celebration, Greitens released a list of benefactors, that helped finance the inaugural festivities. The list of approximately 100 benefactors includes some of Missouri’s largest companies. Among the list was Anheuser-Busch, Boeing, Enterprise, Express Scripts, General Motors, Monsanto, Uber and Walmart.

Upon releasing the list of benefactors, the governor, however, did not disclose the amount of money each benefactor donated to the inaugural festivities, nor is he required too. Unlike his predecessor Jay Nixon, who collected money for his inauguration through a campaign committee, Greitens established a non-profit to fund his. Non-profits are neither required to disclose their donors nor are they subject to donation limits.

During his campaign, Greitens advocated for transparency. Since his inauguration, the public has been closely watching Greitens’ every move. Assistant Political Science Professor Luke Campbell said the public started to raise concern in regard to Greitens’ ability to be transparent, due to perception.

“Every politician, all the time, of course, wants to campaign on, ‘We’re going to clean (the government) up, we’re going to do this ethics reform and we’re going to make it more accountable; the government’s going to be more transparent,’” Campbell said. “You then get the problem of saying this out of one side of your mouth, but then doing something that’s totally, fundamentally different than that. As far as I can tell, that’s the problem, this image of perception: saying one thing and doing another.”

Assistant Political Science Pro-



ORLIN WAGNER | AP PHOTO

Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens takes the oath of office during a ceremony on the steps of the capitol in Jefferson City Jan. 9, 2017.

fessor David Jerome said it might be in Greitens’ best interest to eventually disclose donation details to the public.

“I think Senator Schaaf, from St. Joseph, probably said it the best, ‘The best antiseptic is the light of day,’” Jerome said. “So why not reveal the sources of a contribution? Bob Holden did do that eventually, and he was organized as a non-profit. So I guess if Gov. Eric Greitens is going to be consistent with the platform he ran on, then transparency would be something he should consider in this case.”

Recent Northwest graduate Casey Cruickshank, agreed with Jerome, and said he would like Greitens to uphold his campaign promise, to be more transparent.

“Personally, I would appreciate more transparency on all financial matters concerning the government,” Cruickshank said. “That being said, I am of the central belief that I am better off in life, if you and every other American is better off. And, that you are better off because I am better off.”

Greitens was elected governor after having heavily focus on

cleaning up Missouri’s government. Campbell, however, said Greitens has struggled to maintain transparency, a behavior dating back to his campaign.

“There were some issues during the campaign cycle, exactly what we’re seeing now, which is non-profits set-up directly to funnel money in from political action committees (PACs) that were supporting him,” Campbell said.

According to the Center for Public Integrity, during the campaign cycle, Greitens collected \$6 million from political action committees. In August 2016, the federal political action committee SEALS for Truth donated \$1.9 million to Greitens.

The real source of the money was from the American Policy Coalition, a nonprofit established by an Ohio attorney. The Center for Public Integrity dubbed the nonprofit as the “nexus of one of the nation’s most mysterious networks pouring secret money into elections.” Also during the campaign cycle, Greitens refused to disclose his tax returns.

To avoid future collection of “dark-money” and transparency is-

sues, Cruickshank suggested lawmakers reform campaign financing laws, as well as hold their elected officials more accountable.

“Unfortunately, big money influencing policy in one way or another is a bipartisan issue,” Cruickshank said. “In my opinion, lawmakers need to reform campaign financing laws, and require more accountability on behalf of politicians and their financial matters. I believe that government exists to serve the best interests of all people, not just the wealthy in society.”

Republican lawmakers pushed for legislation that would require disclosure of all future inaugural fundraising and spending following former Democratic Gov. Bob Holden’s inaugural. In 2003, the legislation nearly became a law, but died on the legislative session’s final day due to differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.

In 2001, Holden held the most expensive inaugural in Missouri’s history, spending near \$1 million. Similarly, Holden established a non-profit to funnel in campaign donations. Holden eventually disclosed

donation details to the public.

Moving forward, Campbell said he worries there’s not enough incentive for elected officials to change such disclosure laws.

“This is one of those really tricky things,” Campbell said. “I think there is an appetite among the public to change the disclosure laws, and that we need to know where the money’s coming from, who it’s going to and how much (they donated), just in a general sense of accountability. And while elected officials know and understand that, there’s not a lot of incentive for them to do that. This case in point, if someone like Gov. Greitens is campaigning on a platform of openness, transparency and ethics reform, but then can seemingly get away with it, where’s the incentive? There’s incremental stuff happening at the state level. At the federal level specifically, I don’t see this happening for awhile.”

Jerome senses there will be further incremental movements happening at the state level. He said Missouri recently took a step in the right direction in regard to campaign fundraising.

“We’ve taken some steps with Constitutional Amendment No. 2 being passed in November, and I think that’s one step in the right direction,” Jerome said. “We develop public policy based on some need in our society. So if the perception is now that we’ve had this experience, and the public is not willing to accept this anonymity with regard to inaugural fundraising, then I can see legislation advancing that would cause that to occur... Again, going back to my original statement, I think that if the public and the media bring focus to this matter, and if there are state legislators like Senator Schaaf that believe that this is one more thing we need to account for in public policy, that they will pursue that.”

Missouri Constitutional Amendment 2 established limits on campaign contributions to candidates for state or judicial office.

Fourth Street achieves ‘Great Places’ award

BAILEY GABBERT
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

The \$2 million Fourth Street Improvement Project was recognized as the Great Places in Missouri award recipient by the Missouri Chapter of the American Planning Association’s (APA).

The project, finished in June 2015, was a joint effort between the Maryville and Northwest Missouri State University. Maryville City Manager Greg McDanel said the main goal was to create a better gateway from downtown to campus.

“Fourth Street was chosen for this project to help extend the visual elements and borders of campus to downtown,” McDanel said. “After years of disinvestment, it didn’t project a gateway to the town. Now, it shows a much better representation of campus importance.”

McDanel, along with Assistant City Manager Ryan Heiland and Northwest President John Jasinski, went to Jefferson City to accept the award during Planners Day at the Capitol, part of Great Northwest

Days Jan. 31 through Feb. 1.

“The Fourth Street Improvement Project has been both a symbol and catalyst,” Jasinski said. “It represents an enhanced and ongoing collaborative effort between the City of Maryville and Northwest and also serves as a metaphor for dynamic growth throughout the community and University.”

Jasinski said this improvement is a catalyst for those thinking through possible partnerships, investments and growth strategies.

“It is a visual image that shows working together for a common good is indeed the right and smart thing to do,” Jasinski said.

To be considered for this award, the place has to have exemplary character, quality and planning with its own cultural interest, unique identity, a large degree of community involvement and it must have a vision for tomorrow, according to criteria included on the Great Places in Missouri nomination form.

When a street is considered for the award, the APA looks to see if it is accommodating for all users, tour-

ists and events, and is connected to vibrant areas that assist in building the economy and connecting the town, APA Missouri Chapter Administrator Megan Clarke said. The APA also looks for the presence of locally-owned businesses and at the cosmetic appearance of the street itself.

“There are a few characteristics of a great street that were discussed by the committee to determine the Fourth Street Corridor as the Great Street in Missouri,” Clarke said.

This improvement project included many of the criteria needed to be considered for the award, including and introducing new foot and bicycle paths, paving the sidewalks to make them user friendly and renovating the Student Body and the Northwest sign that greets drivers on the way to campus. The sign, along with the thermo-plastic paw prints, was made possible through a partnership between the city of Maryville and the University.

Since the project’s completion, Fourth Street has been used as the main route for Northwest’s homecoming parade, the Nodaway County parade and the Farmers Market, making it a new focal point for events and a place of pride for the city and University.



ANNASTASIA TUTTLE | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville earned the Great Places Award from the American Planning Association for the Fourth Street Improvement Project.

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Students cautioned of flu season

MYRANDA NERUD
Chief Reporter | @thatkidmyranda

Northwest is encouraging students to be cautious of flu season. Assistant Director of Wellness Services Judy Frueh said this past week, the Wellness Center has seen a rise in influenza cases compared to previous weeks. Influenza typically peaks in February. Frueh said rates for cases at the Wellness Center have been normal. “Usually we expect it to get worse before it becomes better,” Frueh said. Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services reported that the week of Jan 22-28, there were a total of 15,378 influenza cases in Missouri. Missouri DHSS also reported four influenza related deaths during the week. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the last week of January Missouri has a high level of Influenza-like illnesses, when compared to other states. Common symptoms of the flu

include fever, body aches, loss of appetite, head congestion and nausea. Frueh recommends drinking fluids and taking Tamiflu. Northwest sent an email to students encouraging them to stay home when sick and get a flu shot if they have not yet received one. According to the CDC, someone with the flu can spread to anyone within a six-foot range of them. Those who were sick can still spread the flu five to seven days after their symptoms subside, according to the CDC. Ways to prevent the flu is by washing hand frequently and avoiding those who are sick. Frueh and the CDC highly recommends receiving a flu shot. “It is still highly recommended to get a flu shot, but it will take about two weeks to build your immune system,” Frueh said. “Also, make sure you’re getting enough sleep, fruits and vegetables and water.” Those with chronic illnesses, such as asthma and diabetes, are encouraged to visit a doctor if symp-



HANNAH WOODSON | PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Staff at the Wellness Center warns students to take precaution with the influenza virus going around the area.

toms occur. “They are more likely to get complications with the flu,” Frueh said. Students can make appointments through the Wellness Center online or by calling 660-562-1348. Walk-ins are also welcome, but Frueh recommends making an appointment to receive care sooner.

Black History Month events promote understanding

MYRANDA NERUD
Chief Reporter | @thatkidmyranda

Northwest continues to celebrate diversity and promote inclusion throughout the month.

February is Black History Month, and to celebrate, Northwest is holding multiple events on campus. Drop the Mic Night is Feb. 16 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Ron Houston Center for the Perform-

ing Arts, Soul Food Dinner is Feb. 21 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Union Ballroom and the Lincoln Forever Green Game, Feb. 25 at 3:30 p.m. is at Bearcat Arena. Arlondo Watson, a student employee at the University’s Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, said these events are for everyone and he would love to see anyone from any background. “This is the perfect chance to gain better knowledge about popular conversations we have today in society and to add any additional insight that you might want to express,” Watson said. Gibson also encourages anyone to attend in the hopes that those attending will understand each other more. “Anyone who is willing to listen and understand where people are coming from are more than welcome,” Coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion Edward Gibson IV said. Watson said Black History Month events are important and impactful on campus life. “It gives us, African Americans and others, time to fully discuss and understand our roots,” Watson said.

“Students and staff can have different conversations that will enhance our knowledge and unify us in the process.” Gibson believes with the state of the world, more students will show up to events and engage in meaningful conversations. Events on campus are important to help people become knowledgeable and understand those with different heritages, Gibson said. “(These events) bring more inclusion,” Gibson said. “At a past event, we had a participant say it created a more inclusive environment.” Watson is eager to hear the speaker at the Soul Food Dinner, Emanuel Cleaver. Gibson also expressed his excitement for the dinner. “There will be food and more impactful views,” Gibson said. “To know where we are going, it is important to know where we came from.” Watson would like to see as many in attend as possible, he said he doesn’t want anyone to miss out. “(Large attendance) is always the goal with events on campus, we most certainly would not want anyone to miss out on these opportunities,” Watson said.



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Edward Gibson speaks at the Diversity and Inclusion, Black History Month Committee event “Black History and Chill” party in Millikan hall to discuss the crisis in black education.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

DROP THE MIC NIGHT
THURSDAY 2/16 @ 7:30 P.M.
RON HOUSTON CENTER

SOUL FOOD DINNER
TUESDAY 2/21 @ 5:30 P.M.
J.W.JONES STUDENT UNION BALLROOM

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Galentine’s day needs recognition



ALY BAKER
Opinion Columnist
@alybakeacake

Valentine’s Day is coming up and if you are single, like I am, I guarantee you are dreading it. I am here to say, you do not have to.

If you are a fan of the series “Parks and Recreation,” you may be familiar with main character Leslie Knope’s concept of a friends’ Valentine’s Day, which she lovingly

named “Galentine’s Day.”

Galentine’s Day is a holiday Knope uses to celebrate the platonic loves in her life: her gal pals. As Knope said, it is “ladies celebrating ladies.”

Knope celebrated Galentine’s Day with brunch, but you could celebrate with your gals by going to dinner, the movies or even having a wine night in. Knope showered her gals with hand-crocheted flower pens, mosaic portraits and a 5,000 word essay on why she loves each friend. I love my friends, but that is a little too mushy for me. A candy bar or a sincere note works great.

As a young, single woman, Galentine’s Day is an important holiday in my life. This holiday shows that if you do not have an actual significant other in your life (or even if you do), it is important to celebrate the love you share with your friends too.

When I was in high school, my boyfriend was my whole world. I hung out with him during and after school. The minute we left each other, we texted, and did not stop until we reunited. I realize this was not healthy, and I am focusing on celebrating the healthy, platonic relationships in my life.

I had amazing friends before my

toxic relationship, and due to my behavior during that relationship, I cannot imagine why my friends stayed with me. Some chose not to.

I see these actions happen in too many relationships. We should be celebrating the friendships we have before we celebrate significant others.

Candace Bushnell, the writer of “Sex and the City,” said it best: “Maybe our girlfriends are our soulmates and guys are just people to have fun with.”

Coming to college, making strong relationships with strong women and watching the way that

some relationships are handled has pushed this quote into my head and my heart. These are the relationships we need to be celebrating.

If you do have a significant other, do not worry. Galentine’s Day falls on Feb. 13, the day before Valentine’s Day, so you can celebrate your significant other as well.

Although we should be celebrating both our romantic and platonic relationships daily, this holiday is just a reminder to show those important people in our lives how much they mean to us.

OUR VIEW:

Don’t apologize for your privilege, accept it

Do not make Black History Month about white people, because it is not.

This time of year brings up a discussion about a topic that causes white people to lose their minds: white privilege.

Before you tune out completely, understand this: a vast majority of our staff is white and we do not like the way white privilege sounds, either. But we also cannot deny the reality of our situation.

Privilege is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as “a special right, advantage or immunity granted or available only to a particular person or group of people.”

We are all college students. Most of us are drowning in student

loans, drinking cheap vodka and heating up ramen noodles. It is easy for us to get defensive when people try to tell us we are privileged, because we have worked hard for what we have.

However, a specific story sticks out when thinking about white privilege.

One of our staffers knows a biracial couple. The husband is black and his wife is white. Her taillight was out. He noticed this, he stressed to his wife over and over again the importance of changing her taillight the next day.

The next day, the woman had forgotten to change the taillight. Her husband was so concerned about something happening to her if she

were to be pulled over, that he began to cry and went to Walmart at 3 a.m. to get a new light.

The wife had no idea what it was like to have such a strong fear of being pulled over and have an encounter with a police officer.

This is white privilege.

Tamir Rice was a 12-year-old black boy playing with an airsoft gun in the park, not unlike many other boys his age.

However, when the police were called to check out the scene, they fired two shots within seconds of arriving to the scene. Rice never had a chance to drop his toy or speak his defense before he was killed.

This is white privilege.

The fact you did not have to be taught not to wear your hood up while walking down the street at night is white privilege.

When school teachers automatically assume the black kid will be the one falling behind or causing problems in class, they are perpetuating white privilege.

We do not want to diminish the struggles white students on campus have. Some are orphans, some grew up in poverty and others have had a hard life before college.

Even if your path was difficult, it is easy to miss the obstacles you never had to overcome, the conversations you never had to have and the discrimination you never had to face.

It is a hard pill to swallow, but white privilege is real. It is not something you should feel ashamed of or guilty about, but you must acknowledge its existence to appreciate the help it has provided you.

There is a reason there is not a white history month, and it is not because our government is racist. It is because it is not customary to give privileged people more privilege.

Be thankful we do not have to have a white history month to reflect on all of the oppression we faced in our lives. Respect the importance of honoring the oppression others face.

Obamacare repeal will disadvantage college students

MEKA WRIGHT
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

College life is a new environment filled with an overload of responsibilities but healthcare is something most college students do not have to worry about. Though the upcoming repeal of the Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare, could add health care to an already overloaded plate. Jan. 20, President Trump issued an executive order to begin the process of removing Obamacare, though it is still not clear whether this will be a quick or slow process.

There have been mixed emotions about Obamacare since early 2010, when President Obama signed the act into law. Some view Obamacare as a major success, while others

feel it has only been a failure. Though Obamacare is flawed, offering affordable health care to college students is a major advantage.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA), which took effect in January 2014, requires all individuals to have health insurance. It also prohibits insurance companies from denying individuals seeking health care due to pre-existing health conditions. These mandates were created to avoid healthy individuals from remaining uninsured until they are injured, and to encourage businesses to provide insurance to their employees.

This reform has brought benefits to those who cannot afford health insurance and those who have health conditions that prevented them from having health insurance in the past.

Some college students who do not receive health care through their parents or university fall into the bracket of those who cannot afford health insurance.

Most college students are insured by their parents’ insurance and, with the ACA, can stay on their parents’ insurance until the age of 26. This also applies to those under 26 years old who are married or receiving health care through their employer.

For those who are neither on their parents’ insurance or cannot afford to pay the monthly fees to be covered, Obamacare has made it easier to be eligible for government programs like Medicaid.

Health care can be difficult to attain for people 18 to 36 years of age because of lifestyle changes. Whether

these are marriages, growth of a household or a change in lifestyle. Health care is beneficial for these individuals, especially since the Affordable Care Act requires all individuals to be sufficiently insured or face monetary penalties.

A Transamerica Center for Health Studies survey showed 67 percent of people 18 to 27 are uninsured, and 31 percent have never been insured by an employer. The option to stay on parents’ insurance until the age of 26 can, and has, greatly reduced the amount of young adults without health care.

Obamacare has been greatly criticized by those who do not see the advantages of the act. Some view the reform as unfair. In order to provide affordable healthcare to those who cannot afford it, the coun-

try must increase tax on wealthy citizens. Some feel the reform brings more complications when filing taxes, whether a person is insured, exempt from being insured or paying a penalty fine for not being insured.

Health care may be the last thing on a college student’s mind, after exam dates, lectures and extracurricular appointments. It seems that college students only have two options: join parents and continue to be insured until they are 26 years old, or join the 67 percent of uninsured individuals their age.

The Obamacare repeal is not something that should be debated. Without The Affordable Care Act, the percentage of uninsured students will increase and leave college students at risk.

STAFF

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Rock, park to honor veterans

KYLE YEHLER
News Reporter | @TheMissourian

Motorists in Maryville may have noticed a large tarp-like structure stationed in the northwest corner of Franklin Park this week.

The shelter temporarily houses a soon-to-be permanent veteran’s memorial in the form of a large boulder – only the second of its kind outside the state of Iowa.

Southwest Iowa native Ray “Bubba” Sorensen II is painting the “Freedom Rock” with a design meant to commemorate local veterans and emergency responders from Nodaway County.

Sorensen has painted dozens of rocks in Iowa since beginning a tour through the state’s 99 counties, where towns facilitate services to bring in a large rock and the equipment and supplies needed to paint. Of Iowa’s counties, 95 either already have rocks painted and displayed or have booked Sorensen’s services.

Sorensen said the tour started in his hometown of Greenfield, Iowa,

in light of a 1998 war movie.

“I saw ‘Saving Private Ryan,’” Sorensen said.

“I wanted to say ‘Thank you’ to our veterans, and there’s a huge boulder north of my hometown. It sits in the middle of nowhere. I painted ‘Thank you to our veterans’ and ‘Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima.’ It was a graffiti rock painted over later, and the next year some veterans asked if I wanted to paint it again – so I did.”

The artwork from the then-college student caught the eyes of many Iowans, and the rock – after being painted for several years – became a landmark.

“People started wanting a rock in their town,” Sorensen said.

The artist booked 60 Iowa county rocks in the first year of opening his work to the public.

Recently, Sorensen began a “50 States in America” tour, which prompted Maryville to be the first place outside of Iowa to reserve a rock.

Chairman of the Freedom Rock Committee Jeanine Montgomery said

the idea took flight after mentioning it to the Maryville Pride Lions Club.

“We were talking about what we wanted to do for a Legacy Project for Lions Club International to celebrate their 100-year anniversary,” Montgomery said. “I’ve always dreamed about getting a Freedom Rock here, because I’m originally from Greenfield. It was full-blown from there. Everyone was very positive about it.”

The Maryville Pride Lions, Maryville Host Lions, Pickering Lions, Hopkins Lions and Graham Lions sponsored the project.

Sorensen started painting Feb. 3, and will finish after seven to 14 days. Local businesses and individuals have donated all of the needed items, including the rock, the rock’s transport, shelter, framework, propane, heaters, electrical work and room and board. After the rock is completed, Lions members will apply a sealant on top of the costly silicate paint to combat natural elements.

**SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURIANS.COM**



A | NW MISSOURIAN

Ray “Bubba” Sorensen II begins painting the rock located in Franklin Park Feb. 3



SUBMITTED

Black Lives Matter activist Janaya Khan spoke to the University campus Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.

BOY SCOUTS CONTINUED FROM A1

“The fact that people are allowing trans male youth into Boy Scouts of America is good, but it’s late in the fight,” Alan said. “The fact that trans girls aren’t allowed in Girl Scouts of America sucks, but we will get there. The fight is just starting. The fact that Trump is president means we will

only have to fight that much harder.”

In 2013, Boy Scouts of America expanded rights for gay youth by ending its ban on openly gay youth from joining.

Boy Scouts of America claim nearly 2.3 members, according to its website. It promotes lifelong learning as one of the many things it tries to get youth involved in.

“People need to learn all through

their lives,” the website said. “We live in a society that rewards continual acquisition of skills and knowledge. Scouting provides structured settings where young people can learn new skills and develop habits of continual learning that will help them succeed. From its foundation, scouting has offered a concrete program of discovering, sharing and applying knowledge and skills.”

Blotters for the week of Feb. 9

Maryville Department of Public Safety

Jan. 12

A summons was issued to **Emily T. Iliff**, 20, Blue Springs, for driving while intoxicated, minor in possession and equipment violation at the 100 block of East Cooper.

There is an ongoing smoke investigation following a fire report at the 700 block of South Main.

Jan. 13

A summons was issued to **Byron L. Lang**, 53, Fletcher, Oklahoma, for driving while intoxicated, speeding and failure to use turn signal at the 700 block of Prather Avenue.

Jan. 14

A summons was issued to **Landon A. Adams**, 21, for driving while intoxicated and speeding at the 600 block of North Saunders.

Jan. 15

A summons was issued to **Elizabeth A. Burley**, 18, for minor in possession at 500 University Drive.

There was a report of a structure fire at the 500 block of South Mattie.

Jan. 18

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 600 block of East Seventh Street.

A summons was issued to **Sequoia L. Grayson**, 26, for driving while suspended and equipment violation at the 100 block of West First Street.

Jan. 20

A summons was issued to **Jessica M.J. Taylor**, 20, for driving while intoxicated, minor in pos

session, failure to maintain right half of roadway and improper left turn at the 300 block of North Market. Within the same incident, a summons was issued to **Klaire M. Black**, 20, for minor in possession and open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

Jan. 21

A summons was issued to **Austin M. Gotch**, 19, Kansas City, Missouri, for minor in possession, equipment violation, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia at the 100 block of North Buchanan.

A summons was issued to **Jennifer D. Devers**, 22, for dog at large at the 300 block of West Thompson.

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 300 block of North Market.

Jan. 22

There is an ongoing investigation for assault at the 900 block of North Mulberry.

A summons was issued to **Dustin R. Winter**, 22, Clearmont, for trespass at the 100 block of South Hester.

Jan. 23

There is ongoing investigation for larceny at the 500 block of South Buchanan.

A summons was issued to **Zachary T. Witthar**, 22, for driving while suspended at the 100 block of East Fifth Street.

Jan. 26

A summons was issued to **Michael J. McMahon**, 21, for disorderly conduct at the 500 block of Prather Avenue.

Jan. 27

The Maryville Department of Public Safety provided mutual aid

following a fire report at the 200 block of Oak Street in Skidmore.

Jan. 28

A summons was issued to **Bailey J. Curtis**, 20, for minor in possession at the 800 block of North Mulberry.

A summons was issued to **Jarett J. Miles**, 19, on a warrant for failure to appear at the 100 block of West Torrance.

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 800 block of North Walnut.

A summons was issued to **Phillip M.L. Schildt**, 28, for disorderly conduct and minor in possession at the 400 block of North Walnut.

Jan. 30

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny from a motor vehicle at the 1000 block of North Mulberry.

Jan. 31

A summons was issued to **Grant W. Boland**, 21, for driving while intoxicated and speeding at the 600 block of East Seventh Street.

Feb. 1

A summons was issued to **John L. McAdams**, 30, Lincoln, for driving while intoxicated and failure to maintain right half of roadway at the 200 block of East Summit Drive.

Two summonses were issued to **Ngozi O. Wogu**, 22, and **Kamale A. Morgan**, 23, for possession of drug paraphernalia at the 1200 block of West 16th Street.

Feb. 4

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 200 block of North Walnut.

Feb. 5

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny at the 300 block of North Market.

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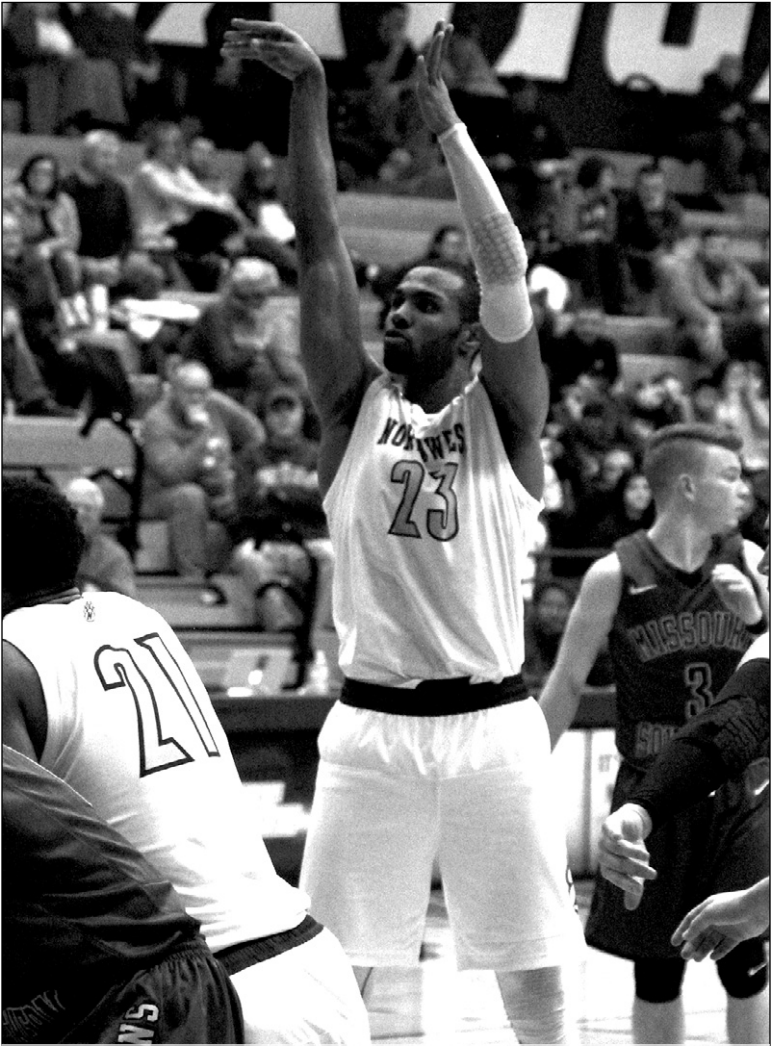
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Chris-Ebou Ndow

Norway to Northwest, Bearcat uses Basketball as key to world

Junior Chris-Ebou Ndow has played basketball since he was 5 years old. His father played before him, which is what first interested him in the sport.

REBECCA BOREN
A&E Editor | @beccalynnborn

“Basketball is my first love,” junior Chris-Ebou Ndow said.

A childhood passion turned into a gateway to education when Ndow moved from Norway to Maryville to play basketball for the Bearcats.

“It is what I have been doing since I was 5 years old. My dad played basketball, so that’s why I played. ‘Space Jam’ is my favorite movie,” Ndow said.

Since the Bearcat basketball team is the only undefeated team in the nation, Northwest fans are sure glad he did.

Ndow grew up in Stavanger, Norway with his parents, two little brothers and older half brother and sister.

“I always competed with my brothers, but I am almost five years older than the oldest and eight years older than the next,” Ndow said. “I always beat them at whatever it was. We used to be brats when we were growing up. We played soccer in the house and broke things, which always got us into a lot of trouble.”

Ndow’s father is originally from Gambia, located on the western coast of Africa. He came to Norway to study abroad, and that is when he met Ndow’s mother.

Ndow’s family is still in Stavanger, but he moved around frequently growing up. Sports was always a way for Ndow to make friends in his new town.

Going to school far from home is nothing new to Ndow. When he was just 15 years old, he moved five hours away to play basketball for a high school team.

“Basketball is not too big in

Norway, so if you wanted to play, you had to go find it,” Ndow said.

Although he was pursuing his passion, moving away from home so young was one of the toughest things Ndow has ever had to do.

“I moved to a new city where I didn’t know anyone,” Ndow said. “I was only there for basketball. I was immature, so I went through a lot of growing pains.”

Being away from his parents so young meant Ndow had to grow up quickly. He had to learn to deal with difficult situations by himself.

“The first two years were some of the hardest in my life,” Ndow said. “I think I am happy I went through it... It is the toughest part, but also one of the most fortunate in how it has better prepared me for what I am doing now.”

Ndow said he received a lot of support from his friends and teachers, but his father also played a major role in his success.

high school, Ndow went to Atlanta to stay with his cousin and try to find a college to play for.

From Atlanta, he went to Milwaukee and then to Kansas. Along the way, Ndow met a friend who knew one of the Northwest coaches.

“My first impression of Northwest was wonderful. When I came here, I had no idea what to expect,” Ndow said. “At that point, all I wanted was to get somewhere and play basketball.”

Ndow said the school offered him a lot of services to make the transition to the United States much easier.

“They have a wonderful international program here. People are very open and want to help you out; I really felt welcome. Getting involved with the team was really easy,” Ndow said.

Being away from home has its difficulties, but Ndow’s mother has been as supportive as she can from

feel at home.

At Northwest, Ndow studies psychology. He wants to have a career in clinical, sports or abnormal psychology.

“I was a business major, but I only did that because I didn’t know what I wanted to do,” Ndow said. “So far, I love psychology.”

Counseling is something Ndow loves to do and has proven to be good at, as well.

“I like to talk to people and work through their problems,” Ndow said. “I have a few friends who have been to psychologists, and they told me my reaction was similar to their psychologist’s. They told me I had a knack for it.”

However, right after graduation, Ndow’s eyes are still set on basketball.

“I want to do it for as long as I can, for as long as my body holds up,” Ndow said. “I will try to play professionally after I graduate. I want to see how far I can take it.”

Basketball has always been a

balance once you throw in a social life and time to skype home.”

Junior D’Vante Mosby plays with Ndow on the basketball team. The two have developed a close friendship.

“Chris is a great guy and very loyal friend. Anytime I’ve needed him off the court, he’s been there for me because that’s just who he is,” Mosby said.

A difficult time for international students is the holidays, because many cannot return home. Luckily for Ndow, his friends are more than willing to take him in.

“One of my favorite memories of Chris is when he spent a week with my family in Kansas City over Christmas break,” Mosby said. “We love him like he’s family, and hope we can be a family away from his family in Norway.”

When Ndow does go home, he enjoys the time with family, as the opportunity does not happen often.

“I remember coming home from school for the summer and seeing my baby brother for the first time,” Ndow said. “He was born a couple months before I came home. I feel more like an uncle to him.”

Meeting his brother is one of the highlights of Ndow’s life.

“It was the most awesome feeling. He takes a little time to get used to me every summer, but after that he is great,” Ndow said.

More than anything, Ndow tries to remain positive.

“I try to look at the glass half full. I want to spread positivity,” Ndow said. “I am always trying to turn bad days around. I love to make people smile.”

“My dad is one of the most important people in my life, and he gave me a lot of advice

“My dad is one of the most important people in my life, and he gave me a lot of advice,” Ndow said. “It helped me look at my situation in a different perspective. You can make mistakes, but as long as you learn and grow from them, you’re ultimately better off.”

Ndow’s journey to Northwest is a complicated one. After graduating

across the world.

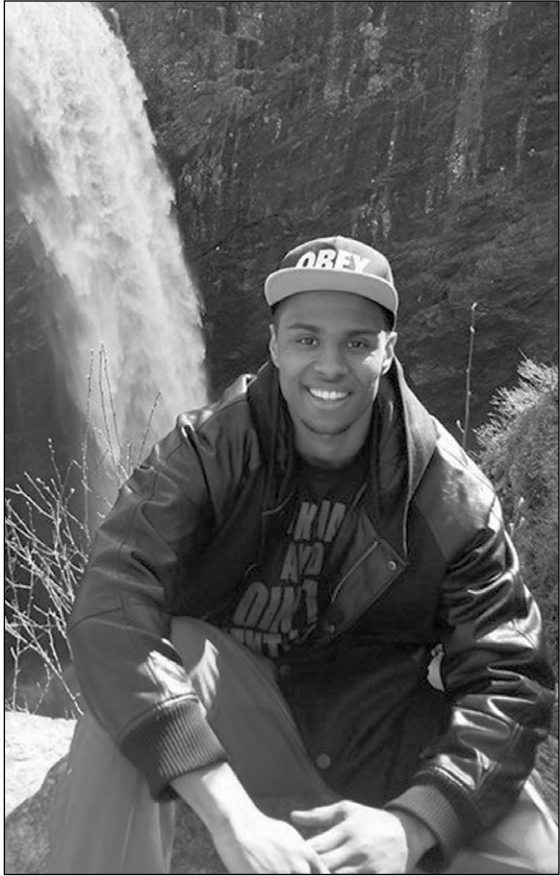
“She deals with me being away better than most people, because she is used to it,” Ndow said. “She just surprise-visited me this December for my birthday. It was the first time she had been here.”

The parents of Ndow’s teammates were very welcoming. Ndow said it was easy for his mother to

part of Ndow’s life; he cannot think of what it would be like without it.

Being a full-time student and athlete, Ndow has had to learn lots of time management skills.

“It’s a pretty simple concept, even if it is hard to do sometimes,” Ndow said. “I do what I love, which helps. At the same time, I also really want to do well in school. It’s a hard



Although he is thousands of miles away from home, Ndow still remains connected with his family through skype and his visits home for the summer.

SUBMITTED

THE STROLLER:

Your Bearcat want you to open your eyes and pay attention

Stop what you are doing, take out those earbuds, get focused and start paying attention.

It is so easy to get distracted by the daily hum of celebrity gossip, the hourly woes of being a college student, what homework you did not do and every other meaningless thing twenty-somethings, like us, think about.

To be honest, many of us do not really care about the things happening around us, minus the ever-so-entertaining buzzfeed article about Beyonce’s pregnancy. Have we forgotten what it means

to be informed?

I would go to parties and hear 15 different things about who had sex with who, why he was cheating on her and how she could do so much better than him. Did we not just elect a president who wants to “Make America Great Again” by banning muslims, enforcing stricter abortion policies, building a wall and limiting media coverage towards his actions?

I expect more. It is easy to forget about world hunger, poverty, death and inequality by turning up the music. Ignorance is bliss, but

when you wake up one day and realize it is too late to fix the issues that matter to you, it will hurt.

Do not get me wrong, I love social media just as much as the next person and I enjoy talking about the mundane. However, there is a time and a place for everything. In a time of vast political change and subsequent social pressure, we as Bearcats should be engaging these issues, not talking about who is and is not a douche.

As young, intelligent and strong-willed Northwest Missouri State Bearcats, it is our duty to

their focus on the superficial. Get a hobby, get passionate about something, become an individual and maybe even set goals.

Wake up, Bearcats. You have hit the snooze button at least twenty times now. You are late for class.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

An idol for everyone, Stephanie Gummelt shines bright

MICHAEL CRIFE
A&E Reporter | @MikeCripe

With deep roots in her music and incredible positivity, Stephanie Gummelt continues to be one of the brightest examples of someone following their passion.

Missouri Western junior technical communications major Gummelt focuses her time on two major pieces of her life. Education is a big part of it, but Gummelt’s love for music still finds a place as both a hobby and career.

With an extensive song library and successful shows, Gummelt lets her music speak for itself.

Gummelt has been writing since she was 13, and has let only the deepest and most raw emotions be part of her music. She does this not only so her art can reflect her feelings, but because it is what she has always known.

“I got a guitar after I begged my dad for one, and then didn’t touch it for months, just as he predicted,” Gummelt said. “Then, one night he came over and taught me ‘Our Song’ by Taylor Swift. After that, I just didn’t stop playing. That’s when I got famous.”

The fame Gummelt often jokes about refers to her successful audition on American Idol about two years ago. The judges were very impressed after she played her original song “Chore.”

While she was thrilled to be on the show, Gummelt made it clear

music and art were her passions. She feels this may have hurt her in the competition, but she is thankful for the experience.

“It was definitely kind of scary getting as far as I did,” Gummelt said. “I would have kept going happily, but I was kind of relieved to come home because I work in a music store and I play at church every week. I just love college so much and I would have missed it.”

When Gummelt started writing music, Taylor Swift was one of her biggest influences. Even though she feels Swift has gotten away from her roots, Gummelt makes sure to stay true to hers.

“When I was 10 or 11, she was such a different genre. She wrote really wholesome stuff with super simple chords that really stuck with you,” Gummelt said. “She was why I started playing guitar, but then I started playing guitar for myself.”

Kayla Doles, one of Gummelt’s closest friends, has been through all of the highs and lows with Gummelt. Doles appreciates Gummelt’s level headedness with everything she’s been through and says she has always loved watching her grow.

“I think it’s the coolest thing in the whole world,” Doles said. “How did I get so lucky to be friends with someone who is insanely talented, but at the same time so humble and down-to-earth about everything? It’s just been cool to see her get to where she is now.”



Although she enjoyed the process, junior Stephanie Gummelt was relieved to come home from ‘American Idol.’ She was just beginning college and would miss her friends and life back at home.

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CORIE HERTZOG
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

The Northwest theater department kicked off the semester impressing audiences with murder, game shows from beyond the grave and glass cocktail stirrers.

The show started off with “Blood on Canvas,” directed by junior Kali Coates.

“I picked ‘Blood on Canvas’ because it was intriguing and I hadn’t seen anything like it at Northwest,” Coates said.

The crowd learned that a string of murders and art thefts left Stella, played by graduate student Ashley Reynolds, and Maddie, played by Meighan Robinson, a bit on edge. Stella contacted up-and-coming artist, Maddie, to view her paintings.

The two women discussed the importance of details when it comes to art. After a few glasses of wine, the two discuss the art thefts and murders and confess how they would commit their perfect crime.

By the end of Maddie’s demonstration of how she would murder Stella, the crowd realized that it was no game for the artist. Maddie went on about how Stella never noticed the details that would eventually lead her to her death that night, such as how Maddie was not an artist, but was the art thief.

“While it never made me think about how to commit a perfect murder, we did have conversations about how plausible it is,” Coates said.

Next came “A New York Minute,” which was directed by graduate student Wendy King. In the one act, Melissa, played by Hannah Jahal, is trying to mourn the loss of her best friend, Harry, played by Michael Wolowicz, who had committed suicide. Harry’s spirit shows up as she is cleaning out his apartment.

The two spend time trying to help Melissa grieve his death and understand why he tossed himself in front of a subway train when he had his whole life planned to the last detail. Through a game-show set up, Harry helps Melissa realize he took his life because he had cancer. His advice to his best friend is to take risks and to live life, and not have life live her.

“One thing I really like about the show is that my life is a lot like Harry’s,” King said. “If you look at my Outlook calendar, it’s all color-coded and everything is planned out in 15-minute increments. That’s one thing I struggled with: stepping back and learning how to enjoy life.”

The final act was “When the Southern Belle Tolls,” which was directed by senior Nataleigh Brull. The one act is a parody of the famous play “The Glass Menagerie.”

The parody follows the night of a family of one southern mama named Amanda, played by Andrea Boswell, and her two sons, Lawrence (played by Jon Schanuel) and Tom (played by Jacque Davidson). Desperate to get her youngest son, Lawrence, out of her house, Amanda has Tom bring a girl home from the factory where he works to set his

brother up on a date. The only problem is that the loud and slightly-ditzzy Ginny, played by Janelle Webber, already has a girlfriend.

Throughout the night, Amanda has to deal with Lawrence, his obsession with glass cocktail stirrers and his hypochondria, as well with a practically-deaf Ginny yelling and not understanding a word anyone says.

While the acts were entertaining, the night was unique because all of the directors were first-time directors at Northwest. The three ladies all learned something to help them in the future.

Coates learned through her experience that you can never start stage combat too soon.

“We started on it on the third day and I still feel nervous every time they touch each other,” Coates said.

For King, it was learning how to pick what is most important.

“You really have prioritize what’s important to you when doing one of these shows,” King said. “Is it more important to do A or to do B?”

Brull learned her supporting actors were not only there to perform, but they were students who needed moral support as well.

“It’s important to nurture your actors,” Brull said. “You need to make them feel really good about themselves and the work that they’ve done.”

Overall, the three women put together a night full of mystery, life lessons and laughter that left audiences with a memorable experience.



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior guard Alex Bean releases the ball while attempting a three-point shot in the Spoofhounds’ 60-43 win over Plattsburg Jan. 30.

REVENGE

CONTINUED FROM A12

Along with being a leader on the court, Schneider brings an intensity that even McCollum cannot explain. “I used to get everybody ready, but It’s almost like he’s getting me ready,” McCollum said. “From day one he has always been there.” Schneider possesses the second-best three-point percentage in the MIAA, along with the No. 30 best percentage in Division II. Justin Pitts, Chris-Ebou Ndow, Ryan Welty and Xavier Kurth all contribute to the Bearcats’ deadly three-point shooting for an overall 43.4 percent. “I think our kids are unselfish

enough to take great shots,” McCollum said. “We take better shots, which increases our percentage.” Though not everyone has the clearance to shoot from deep, all but junior Brett Dougherty has attempted a three-pointer through this season. According to McCollum, Schneider has the freedom to fire whenever and from wherever he wants. “Zach has a green light,” McCollum said. “His is pretty bright green.” The results of Wednesday’s game were not associated upon print of this publication.

NEXT GAME

Washburn @ Northwest

Feb. 11 @ 3:30 p.m.

SENIORS

CONTINUED FROM A12

“They’ve been friends forever,” Stoecklein said. “It is fun to see them all get out there and play pretty well.” Maryville has won three straight since a 41-38 loss to Lawson (19-2) in the Cameron Invitational Championship Jan. 28. The latest victory came in a 74-29 rout over Cameron (8-13) Feb. 7. Stoecklein has stressed to his team that learning from the last loss is vital for working towards its goals in the weeks ahead. “I think they just realized how good they could be if they just finish some stuff,” Stoecklein said. “Since then, they have been focused, and have reenergized on what they need to do to win sectionals, conference, districts and all these things we want to do.” Bean attributes the team’s success to relationships spoken of more often than not. The remaining season will be taken one game at a time, but players know the eight seniors’ time on the court is slowly draining away. “When the time comes and the final buzzer rings, it is going to be really hard,” Bean said. “These guys are my brothers, and it is going to be really hard not playing with them.”

NEXT GAME

St. Joseph Benton @ Maryville

Feb. 10 @ 7:30 p.m.

DESTINY

CONTINUED FROM A12

Howe added 18 points per game and sophomore guard Arbrie Benson averaged 16 points per game. Along with Northwest’s top players performing well over the past three weeks, younger players have also emerged. Sophomore forward Maria Dentlinger scored 10 points in Northwest’s win over Lincoln, while sophomore guard Mallory McAndrews added six off of the bench. Not only is Northwest beginning to showcase its talent, but players have bought into Scheel’s philosophy of hard work and mental toughness. “We all are pretty dedicated to what we are trying to do this year,” Howe said. “The other girls are doing a good job at working hard and trying to build the program.” Since the team meeting that took place a few weeks ago, the team has changed drastically. Starters are playing as expected and supplemental players are beginning to provide depth and play-making ability when called upon. What others do not see, however, is the improved chemistry that has been key in allowing Northwest to put itself in a position to play in the postseason. “We have a good group of girls here,” Howe said. “I like playing with them.”

Four of Northwest’s remaining games are winnable. With three of those being home games, Northwest holds the key to its post-season hopes. However, Northwest will have to get past No. 10 Pittsburg State during its Feb. 16 matchup in Pittsburg, Kansas. “You feel more comfortable when you are at home, being in that regular home game routine,” Scheel said. One advantage that Northwest has over its remaining opponents is its field goal efficiency. Northwest ranks third in the conference in field goal percentage, with 44 percent. Out of the remaining games, only Washburn ranks in the top five in the conference in terms of opponents’ field goal percentage. Northwest may allow more total points per game now than earlier in the season, but its offense is operating on a more efficient level. Since Feb. 2, Northwest has failed to eclipse 60 points only once in a 78-57 loss to Missouri Western. Both coach and players realize the importance of a leader that is able to lead the team through adversity. “It takes the right person on the team taking charge,” Scheel said. “Everyone else has to follow along.”

NEXT GAME

Washburn @ Northwest

Feb 11 @ 1:20 p.m.



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior forward Zach Schneider uses his long wingspan to defend for the Bearcats in a 88-71 win Jan. 19.

BEARCAT WIN STREAKS

As of Feb. 7

Regular season wins - 34
MIAA wins - 25
Home wins - 31

SOURCE: BEARCATSPORTS.COM MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN

ATHLETES of the WEEK



BEARCATS

SPOOFHOUNDS



Joseph Hietpas

Nicole Harnisch

Spencer Morrison

Emma Baldwin

The junior pitcher threw seven scoreless innings in the Bearcats’ 15-0 win over Northwestern Oklahoma State Feb. 4. The game ended in the seventh inning due to the mercy rule.

The senior thrower won the weight throw with a mark of 50-1.58 feet at the Ted Nelson Classic Feb. 4. Harnisch also finished third in shot put, with a best throw of 39-9.75 feet.

The senior shooting guard put up 14 points in a 74-29 win over Cameron Feb. 7. Morrison was also responsible for six points in a 75-46 victory over Smithville Feb. 3.

The sophomore guard put up 11 combined points in a 64-25 loss to Smithville Feb. 2. and a 64-32 loss to Chillicothe Feb. 7.

Transition holds new challenge

JUSTIN QUICK
Sports Reporter | @NWMSports

The Maryville wrestling team faces a new assignment at the district tournament Feb. 10 and 11 at Excelsior Springs.



The Spoofhounds will take on an all new group of teams as they transition from Class 1 to Class 2. The jump has come from an improvement in turnout for the team in the past few years. Coach Connor Kellerstrass is preparing his team for the new faces they will see.

“This will be our first time in this district, and our first time competing against a lot of these schools,” Kellerstrass said. “We’d like to show them what we’re made of and hopefully take as many of these boys down to Columbia as we can.”

Moving from Class 1 to Class 2 brings many opportunities and challenges for the team. For most of the wrestlers, it is not only about moving on in the tournament, it is about showing they belong in class two.

“With being in a new class, you’re trying to prove yourself to some of the new schools you’re going to see. So it would be nice to go out there and win,” junior Jacob Search said.

Search and his fellow wrestlers will need to be performing their best during the tournament to make it past the tough competition.

The Spoofhounds are in Class 2 District 4. This district includes five teams that come from the Midland Empire Conference.

Together there are 14 teams in this district. Five of these teams are ranked top 10 in Missouri Class 2 teams.

The toughest challenge the Spoofhounds will face is the Oak Grove Panthers. The Panthers have a strong tradition of good wrestling and sit at the top of the Class 2 rankings. The Spoofhounds will keep in



Junior Jacob Search beings to pin his opponent from Millard South Jan. 27. Search finished third in the tournament in the 195 pound division.

mind this challenge, but will not focus solely on this single team.

“We’re preparing for all of the teams, but definitely Oak Grove,” Kellerstrass said. “They’re ranked number one in Class 2, but they’re all extremely tough. If we find a way to get out of this district, we should be sitting pretty well down in Columbia.”

With a tough district waiting for

them, plenty of time to prepare is a bonus. Maryville has been preparing for districts over the past week, and each member is searching for ways to improve each other’s individual performance.

“For the team we’ve tried to individualize practice as much as we can,” Kellerstrass said. “Trying to find things that each boy can work on and

improve upon the little things.”

It is important to each of the wrestlers to find that style that works best for them and focus on that style. Each individual will work on their own weaknesses to make as few mistakes as possible.

“I’m just trying to improve my game and get better to win the tough matches and place and move on.”

Search said.

The Spoofhounds will travel to Excelsior Springs this Friday and Saturday to try and advance both individually and as a team to Columbia, Missouri in the state tournament.

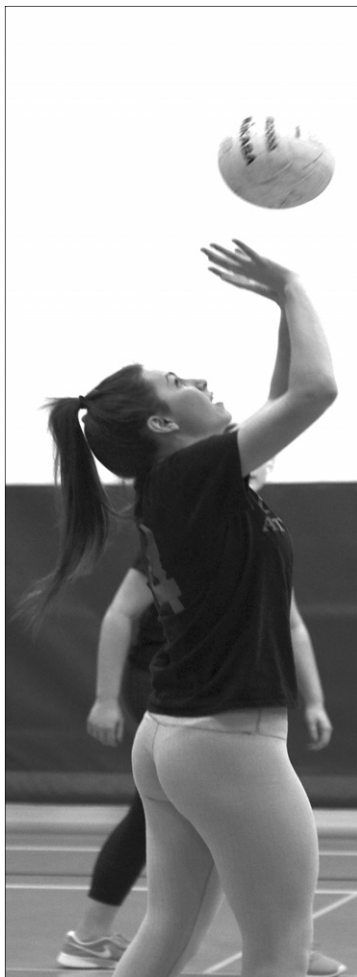
NEXT GAME

Class 2 District 4 Championships @

Excelsior Springs High School

Feb. 10-11 All Day

Intramural volleyball serves up postseason play



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Freshman Heather Schumacher sets the ball during an intramural volleyball game Feb. 5.

TUCKER FRANKLIN
Sports Reporter | @NWMSports

As temperatures cool down, the competition heats up inside the Student Recreation Center.

The intramural volleyball season is in full swing and the playoffs are closely approaching. This year, 48 teams are competing to be the best on campus. Director of Student Recreation James Hinson enjoys the passion for the sport.

“Volleyball is super popular here at Northwest,” Hinson said. “It is a little different from where I have been.”

With the popularity level high, spectator turnouts for the games are larger than other intramural events on campus.

“We normally have a decent turnout from the brothers and sisters, which is awesome. We love that,” Hinson said. “We start getting into playoffs, especially for the fraternities and sororities. We had that in flag football too. It’s great when we have folks come out.”

The spirit of competition is in the air Thursday nights as Greek Life takes the courts for its weekly games. Sophomore Toby Todd appreciates that aspect of the game.

“One of the things I really enjoy about intramurals is the chance to spend more time with my frater-



nity brothers in a more competitive setting,” Todd said. “The opportunities to compete against other fraternities and a lot of my other friends on campus is exhilarating.”

Other players, like sophomore Shane Miller, enjoy factors the game provides to the athletes.

“I really like the competitiveness of the intramural volleyball program,” Miller said. “The games are super fun and everyone is friends afterwards, but it’s still competitive.”

While the regular season opportunities dwindle and postseason play lingers, competitors understand the practicality of the system.

“Well, the regular season has only three games, but it makes a lot of sense,” Todd said. “There are bountiful amounts of sports to play, and limited time in a semester to finish them. It doesn’t give you a whole lot of time to improve seeding or anything, but you have to beat the best to be the best.”

It can seem hard for a team to rise above others and become favorites with so little time to play.

“I don’t think there are any clear-cut favorites at this time,” Hinson said. “To be honest myself, I don’t look at seeds until the regular season.”

With a short season, it can be even more difficult for teams to have an idea of what they are up against. For athletes that love to play the game, it adds some extra motivation.

“I’m always looking to win,” Todd said. “Truthfully, the more

games we win, the more I get to play.”

Veteran teams that have played in years past may have an advantage on rookie teams.

“Having played last year, I have some experience playing in the tournament, which helps,” Miller said. “Also, we get to know players on other teams so we can develop a game plan beforehand

and create some matchups.”

With the final games before the tournament finishing this week, teams are excited and ready for the big tournament to begin.

“I want everyone to have fun and enjoy it,” Hinson said. “I want to have a good championship.”

The volleyball tournament will start Feb. 12 and run through Feb. 16.

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NW MEN’S BASKETBALL			
MIAA Standings			
	Overall	MIAA	
X-NORTHWEST.....	21-0	13-0	
X-Central Missouri.....	15-6	9-4	
X-Central Oklahoma.....	14-7	9-4	
Nebraska Kearney.....	15-7	8-5	
Missouri Southern.....	14-8	8-5	
Fort Hays St.....	13-8	7-6	
Emporia St.....	11-11	7-6	
Lincoln.....	14-9	7-7	
Washburn.....	14-8	6-7	
Lindenwood.....	16-10	6-8	
Southwest Baptist.....	12-10	5-8	
Missouri Western.....	7-15	3-10	
Pittsburg St.....	4-17	2-11	
Northeastern St.....	3-18	2-11	
Feb. 11 Washburn at Northwest			

NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL			
MIAA Standings			
	Overall	MIAA	
X-Central Oklahoma.....	20-2	11-2	
X-Pittsburg St.....	19-3	11-2	
X-Central Missouri.....	18-3	11-2	
X-Emporia St.....	19-3	10-3	
X-Missouri Western.....	17-5	9-4	
Fort Hays St.....	16-6	7-6	
Washburn.....	14-8	7-6	
Missouri Southern.....	11-11	6-7	
Southwest Baptist.....	13-9	5-8	
Lindenwood.....	9-12	5-9	
NORTHWEST.....	8-12	3-10	
Nebraska Kearney.....	7-14	3-10	
Northeastern St.....	6-15	2-11	
Lincoln.....	3-18	2-12	
Feb. 11 Washburn at Northwest			

MHS BOYS BASKETBALL			
MEC Standings			
	Overall	MEC	
MARYVILLE.....	19-3	4-0	
St. Joseph Lafayette.....	8-13	2-1	
St. Joseph Benton.....	11-3	2-2	
Savannah.....	6-5	2-2	
Chillicothe.....	11-10	1-2	
Cameron.....	8-13	1-3	
Bishop LeBlond.....	7-14	0-3	
Smithville.....	1-14	0-3	
Feb. 10 St. Joseph Benton at Maryville			

MHS GIRLS BASKETBALL			
MEC Standings			
	Overall	MEC	
St Joseph Lafayette.....	10-6	3-0	
Chillicothe.....	18-1	3-0	
St. Joseph Benton.....	13-5	4-1	
Savannah.....	6-11	3-3	
MARYVILLE.....	3-11	1-2	
Smithville.....	9-7	0-2	
Cameron.....	3-12	0-3	
Bishop LeBlond.....	3-16	0-3	
Feb. 16 Maryville at Savannah			

X-Clinched spot in MIAA Tournament X-Clinched spot in MIAA Tournament

Red hot

Baseball remains undefeated through first four games

TRENT SPINNER

Sports Reporter | @NWMSports

The Northwest baseball team battled and dominated in a three-game sweep Feb. 4-7 in Alva, Oklahoma.



The Bearcats (4-0) have hit the ground running, accumulating the best start in program history since 1989. This major improvement from last year's 2-2 start is creating more hope for the team as players look to improve from last year with every game.

"This start shows us that we are capable of playing at a very high level. It gives us high standards and sets as a great guide for the entire season," junior left field Kevin Handzlik said. "We are working as a team, and it makes winning so much sweeter when you are around 30 plus brothers."

The Bearcats hit strides in every category as they outscored their opponents 27-5 this weekend. In the first game of the weekend, the Bearcats bested MIAA-rival Fort Hays State 4-2. Northwest was led by senior starting pitcher Anthony

NEXT GAME
Northwest vs Ouachita Baptist Feb. 9 @ 1 p.m.
Northwest vs Henderson St Feb. 10 @ 3 p.m.
Northwest vs Truman St. Feb. 11 @ 12 p.m.
All games are in Arkadelphia, Arkansas

Caenepeel. Caenepeel had a strong outing, racking up a total of 12 strikeouts. The senior also only allowed two hits and one run scored in six innings.

"Sometimes you have games where your stuff is really good, and fortunately, it was good on opening day," Caenepeel said. "The key is to execute the pitches coach Loe calls for us. I wasn't looking for strikeouts, just trying to make the best pitch I could each time."

The Bearcats started a two-game series with Northwestern Oklahoma State (2-2) on their second day in Oklahoma. Northwest showed perfection as it completed a 15-0 win in seven innings over the Rowdy Rangers on their home dirt.

The Bearcat's high-powered offensive totals were due to the fact

that ten of the eleven hitters were able to reach base safely, with senior centerfielder Garrett Fort contributing three RBI's off of a three run homerun in the seventh inning. With the offense clicking, junior starting pitcher Joseph Hietpas added insult to the injury as he pitched seven scoreless innings, allowing only two hits and tallying 15 strikeouts.

The offensive momentum helped the Bearcats as they went into the second game of the series versus Northwestern Oklahoma State. Northwest completed a two-game sweep over the Rangers, with a final score of 8-3, behind a three RBI game by junior third baseman Landon Figg.

"We have experience all over the diamond, and that proves to be big," coach Darin Loe said. "We've been working on pitching and hitting all the way up until our first game, and it seems to be paying off."

With a couple days off in the road trip, the team traveled to the University of Arkansas Fort Smith to take on the Lions. Northwest continued to ride its momentum, showcasing a strong performance, de-



SOURCE | BEARCAT SPORTS.COM

JAMES CHRISTENSEN | NW MISSOURIAN

feating the Lions 6-3. Sophomore designated hitter Jay Hrdlicka crafted four of these runs with a two-run home run, a RBI triple and a sacrifice fly.

The Bearcats look to continue their recent hot streak as they set their sights for matchup with Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Track continues to find success

JAMES HOWEY

Chief Sports Reporter | @How_eyseesit

Northwest track and field had some stand-out performances from a busy Friday, Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 4.



The Bearcats competed in the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational in Lincoln, Nebraska Friday. Saturday Northwest participated in the Central Missouri Mule Relays and the Ted Nelson Classic at Minnesota with different members going to each meet.

Junior Brandon Phipps hit his NCAA provisional mark in the 5,000 meter run with a 14:38.46 to make the count six after having only one last season.

Coach Scott Lorek said he saw steady success that will be pivotal for the squad down the stretch.

"You want to set personal records every week but we didn't get a lot of that," Lorek said. "Our consistency is really good and as a coach when you see that then I think you're ready to make that next step up there in a lot of areas."

Sophomores Audrey Wichmann and Shelley Laures finished one and two in the women's indoor pentathlon at the Central Missouri Mule Relays Saturday night. Laures got first place with 3,231 points and Wichmann was second with 3,191 points. Both results were personal bests. The pair of sophomore's success could potentially add more depth to the Bearcats in the Pentathlon event.

"That was a great improvement



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior Nicole Harnisch uses all of her strength in the weight throw during practice Feb. 6. Track is preparing for the South Dakota State Classic Feb. 10-11

for them and they are both real close in the provisional mark NCAA," Lorek said. "I think maybe they can do that at the conference meet and gives us four athletes on the nationals list in that event."

Wichmann improved her provi-

sional mark in the high jump clearing 5-6 to score 830 points. Laures was second behind Wichmann in the high jump with 5-2.50 and got third in shot put with 578 points (35-3).

Senior Nicole Harnisch won the weight throw with a mark of 50-1.58

feet at Minn. Harnisch also placed third in shot put with a throw of 39-9.75. Harnisch has battled back from having multiple surgeries on her elbow and wrist last year. Lorek said that Harnisch's level of play this season is something to behold.

"For her to go from there come back, competing well and starting to throw big is the hugest thing," Lorek said. "More so then first place is the road she's been on and how she's progressed."

Junior Emma Taylor placed third in the 800 meter with a time of 2:20.85. Freshmen Hiba Mahgoub took second in 400 meter dash with a time of 58.40. Junior Dallas Steiner got third in the 400 meter dash with a time of 50.37. Sophomore Derek Templeman had a personal best in the 800 meter with a time of 1:55.22 and placing fifth. Senior Joe Anger said Northwest's improvements keep building as the season enters the final stretch.

"Like coach said we're doing well and finally hitting some consistency," Anger said. "Overall I think we've just been doing well building toward breakthroughs."

Northwest will be competing in the South Dakota State Classic this weekend against tough clubs like Nebraska Kearney and Iowa Central. Lorek said he expects more strides to be made in the upcoming meet.

"I'm really looking to just having some people hit some significant marks," Lorek said. "I just think the team is kind of ready to bust out."

NEXT GAME
South Dakota State Classic @ Brookings, SD Feb. 10-11 All Day

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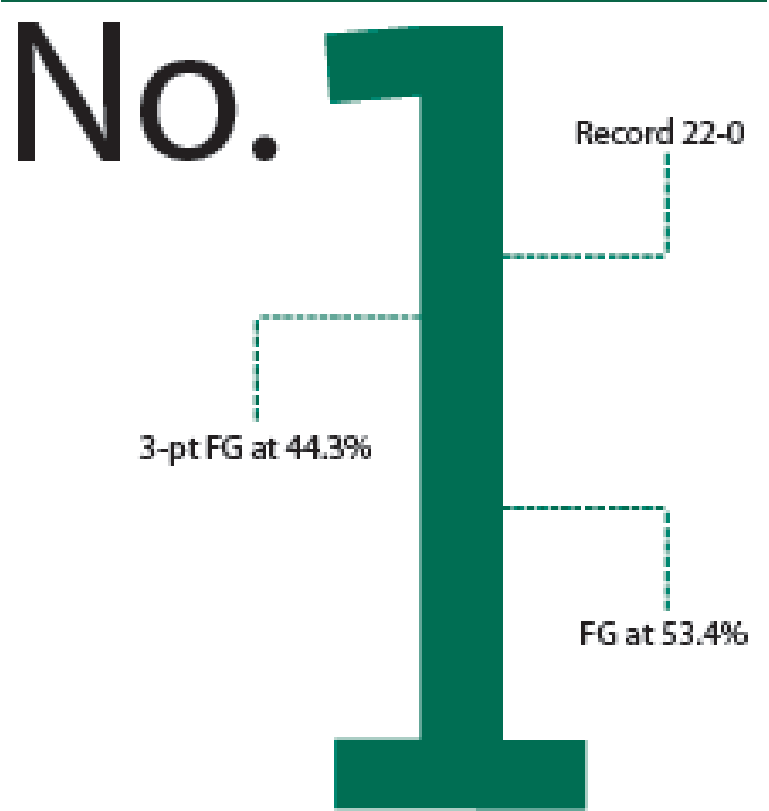
Revenge



Senior Zach Schneider pumps his fist after a Bearcat 89-64 win over Lindenwood Feb 4.

BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Best in Division II



SOURCE: NCAA.COM

MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN

Bearcat History

Last loss to an MIAA opponent	► Emporia State Jan. 13, 2016
Last loss at Bearcat Arena	► Washburn Jan. 10, 2015

SOURCE: BEARCATSPORTS.COM

MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN

The Northwest men plan to wrap up some unfinished business in the MIAA

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503

Northwest has assembled the country's best three-point team and intends to begin its revenge tour, Feb. 8.

The last time the Bearcats (22-0, 14-0 MIAA) lost a conference game was Jan. 13, 2016 in a 70-63 defeat to Emporia State. More than two years ago, Washburn entered



Bearcat Arena and did what no team has done in 30 straight games: walk away with a win.

"We're going to continue this revenge tour and see if we can get a couple wins," McCollum said.

As fate has it, the Bearcats return home for a pair of conference matchups in Emporia State (11-11, 6-6 MIAA) Feb. 8 in the annual "Pink Out Game" and Washburn (14-8, 6-7 MIAA) Feb. 11.

Northwest have consistently hit

the mark from deep for a scorching 44.3 percent, good enough for the best three-point percentage in Division II basketball.

"I think you have to have (the three) to be successful," coach Ben McCollum said. "I think the only way to get layups is to shoot threes."

"It's always nice to have a little extra motivation," McCollum said. "Pressure is a privilege. That pressure makes games fun. In every single game, you're going to get the

other team's best shot."

"We've kind of gotten used to it, but when you look at it, its pretty cool," senior D'Vante Mosby said.

Zach Schneider has been the go-to three-point specialist since his freshman year at Northwest. His first year in a Bearcat uniform, Schneider finished with 70 total treys.

During his sophomore campaign, the forward set a single-season program record, sinking 101 three-pointers. Though he

went down in his junior season, 91 three-pointers is not anything to be ashamed of.

In Schneider's final season at Northwest, the 6-foot 7-inch sharp shooter has drilled 70 from behind the arc. Six games remain, not including postseason, and it will not be surprising if the senior drains a few more.

SEE REVENGE | A9

Seniors set standard for winning culture

JOSEPH ANDREWS
Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15

Spoofhound boys basketball is in the midst of its most successful season since coach Matt Stoecklein took helm three years ago.

Two wins separate Maryville (19-3) from its chance at a Midland Empire Conference (MEC) title before heading into the Class 3 District 16 Championship. Guidance from the team's eight seniors has played an important role in the process.

The seniors helped push the Spoofhounds toward a District Championship in 2016.

"Our seniors are not just athletes with great records, wins and everything they have done," Stoecklein said. "They are great students and great people. They are kind people and nice kids. I can't think more highly of them."

Off the court, the group compiled a 3.86 grade point average, displaying the true meaning of a student athlete.

Seven of the seniors have played on the court together since they were knee high. They were once children sitting near the baseline on the court at Maryville High School, hoping to bring success to the team when



their chance came.

With no losses in MEC play, the group is on track to earn a conference title, which has been dominated by St. Joseph Lafayette (8-13) for six of the last eight seasons.

"When we were younger, I remember talking to Trey (Oglesby) and just like 'hey we're going to win conference in football,'" senior shooting guard Alex Bean said. "We're going to win conference in basketball and baseball. It is finally coming to life."

Four seniors represent the typical starting five for the Spoofhounds. Double digits by point guard John Zimmerman and shooting guard Jackson Gollightly has become a norm.

Shooting guards Spencer Morrison and Trey Oglesby have also found their way into the game, contributing to the team's average of 59.77 points per game.

The pattern continues without starters on the court. Ten Maryville athletes found themselves on the board in a 75-43 senior night victory over Smithville (1-14) Feb. 3.

"They don't do the 'me;' they do the 'we,'" Stoecklein said. "It shows out there on the court when they distribute the ball."

SEE SENIORS | A9

Destiny rests in women's hands as post season looms

TREY RANDLE
Chief Sports Reporter | @treYROCK36

With just under three weeks remaining of regular-season play, Northwest has positioned itself for a postseason push.

After a 5-0 start, Northwest became stagnant. A nine-game losing streak, accompanied by inconsistent play, forced coach Buck Scheel to return to the drawing board.

A mid-season meeting was followed by a resurgence in production. Since its losing streak, Northwest has gone 3-3. Not perfect, but an improvement nonetheless.

After the meeting, Northwest finds itself in No. 11 in the conference. In order for Northwest to make the conference tournament, it must win all of its remaining games. That includes its season finale against Lincoln University, statistically the worst team in the MIAA.

While Northwest has witnessed an improvement spanning over the past three weeks, the players are still a considerable distance away from playing to their potential.

"We have to come in focused every single day," senior guard Jasmin Howe said. "It's especially crucial these last six games if we want to have a postseason."

In its last three wins, Northwest's key contributors have shown game-changing potential. Junior forward Tanya Meyer averaged 27 points per game.



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior guard Jasmine Howe drives to the hoop in the 69-64 loss to Nebraska-Kearney Jan. 19. Howe finished with four points and five assist.

SEE DESTINY | A9